

subject
606
Internal Security
Foreign Agents
Registration

27 February 1953

OGC HAS REVIEWED.

Mr. William P. Rogers
Deputy Attorney General
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Rogers:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of February 9, 1953 pertaining to the amending of section 20 of the Internal Security Act of 1950, and specifically proposing the addition of a new subparagraph (d) to the proposed Section 4 thereof. This matter was the subject of recent discussion between Mr. William E. Foley of your Department and Mr. Lawrence R. Houston, General Counsel of this Agency, in whose absence from the city this reply is being written.

In response to your request our comments are as follows:

1. We believe that the subparagraph (d) as proposed in your letter will substantially accomplish what is desired although it is our opinion that the words "concerning such individual" could better be omitted, thus:

"Sec. 4. The registration requirements of section 2 shall not apply to any person . . .

(d) concerning whom an agency of the United States Government having responsibilities in the field of intelligence has the pertinent information [concerning such individual] as a matter of record in its files and a written determination is made by the Attorney General or the Director of Central Intelligence, based on all information available, that registration would not be in the interest of national security.

2. However, we believe that perhaps greater clarity and specificity would be obtained by the use of the following language:

"Sec. 4. The registration requirements of section 2 shall not apply to any person . . .

(d) whose knowledge of, or receipt of instruction or assignment in, the espionage, counterespionage, or sabotage service or tactics of a government of a foreign country or of a foreign political party, is a matter of record in the files of an agency of the United States Government having responsibilities in the field of intelligence and concerning whom a written determination is made by the Attorney General or the Director of Central Intelligence, based on all information available, that registration would not be in the interest of national security."

*Accepted
by
Attorney*

Such information

While we would prefer the language suggested in paragraph 2 we will leave this to your judgment and we want you to know that your continued assistance and cooperation in this matter are appreciated.

Sincerely,


Acting General Counsel

STATINTL

OGC/JSW/OEP:cd (27 February 1953)

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